

THE CAPITOL EAST GAZETTE

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1985 Plan is Strong for New Parks Here but Slow on Housing Action

Circle Cooks for Market Day

Mrs. John Hogan, a former dietician, is shown at right explaining to Circle-on-the-Hill members how to make sour cream coffee cake. The demonstration was one of several held last month in preparation for Market Day, April 8. Market Day, sponsored by the Circle, is a fund-raising event for Friendship House which will feature homemade food and gift items made by Circle members. It will be held at Friendship House, 619 D SE, from 11 a. m. to 5 p. m. Among the items sold will be the coffee cake, baklava, wall hangings, decorated spice racks, Mexican poppy flowers and streudel. Claire and Co Co, of WMAL-TV, will give a chalk talk at 1:00 p. m. For the children there will be pony rides, movies, cotton candy, and a pinata, "full of goodies," to be broken.

In her demonstration, Mrs. Hogan described the coffee cake as having a "moist, even texture with excellent keeping qualities." A Gazette reporter on the scene found that the coffee cake also tasted very good. All sale proceeds go to Friendship House.



Schools to be Larger

How will Capitol East look in 1985?

The National Capital Planning Commission has issued a blueprint for the area as part of its proposed comprehensive long-range plan for the city. The plan was released last month.

If the blueprint were to be followed, it would mean:

--There would be double the present park and playground space.

--There would be fewer and larger elementary schools based on an expected 10% increase in school population. Sixteen existing elementary schools would be eliminated. Eight existing schools would be expanded and six new ones would be built. Stuart Jr. High would be replaced. Phelps and Chamberlain Vocational Schools would be eliminated. There would be "a new intown campus center to unify the existing Watkins Elementary School and the new junior high school proposed for the vicinity of 15th & Pa. SE."

--Major housing renewal action would be delayed until 1973 in the main portion of Capitol East. According to the report, "proposed industrial reuse of the area immediately east of Union Station would remove generally substandard housing west of 4th St. and north of K St. NE." Total new housing construction in Capitol East could amount to an estimated 8500 units while removals might run as high as 7000.

--The predominantly residential character of the community would be retained.

--There would be scattered site public housing throughout the area, rather than the present emphasis on massive, compressed housing projects.

--The Anacostia waterfront would be developed as the city's major recreational area. According to the report, "Most of the upper portion of this area, (The Aquatic Gardens, the Bird Sanctuary, and the National Arboretum) should be protected in its natural state. The rest of the eastern riverfront area should be the principal sector for the development of centers for concentrated recreational activities; while the western shore, with DC Stadium as the principal exception, should be developed predominantly for pursuits attracting smaller numbers of persons, such as

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Major Meeting Slated for April 29

School board member John Sessions, Fifth Police Precinct Captain John Kinney, and civil rights leader Marion Barry, are among those who have agreed to participate in the Assembly for a Better Community, a nearly all-day conference on area problems to be held April 29. The conference will take place at Hine Jr. High School, 8th & Penna. SE, from 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.

The organizers of the conference hope for a large turnout of community residents for the sessions, which will feature speakers from both in and out of Capitol East and which are designed to permit considerable audience participation. The entire Near NE and Near SE community is invited to attend this conference, which is sponsored by nearly

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An Angry Mrs. Ruff Quits Hine Jr. High

BY ERBIN CROWELL
Associate Editor

Mrs. Susan Ruff, who last month said that she planned to continue teaching at Hine Jr. High despite censorship of a student newspaper she sponsored, has quit. Mrs. Ruff told a D. C. Board of Education meeting March 15 that she could no longer remain in this "intolerable school system."

The final conflict which seems to have led to Mrs. Ruff's resignation occurred earlier the same week. Mrs. Ruff had planned an assembly program on art and music and says she had approval for a Monday morning presentation. When she arrived at school that day, she was told that the assembly would not be held. She could not contact the artists and musicians who were to participate in the assembly for they were already en route. When the performers arrived, they were told that the assembly had not been scheduled, that there was not enough interest in it, and that there was a problem of scheduling a full assembly that morning.

Mrs. Ruff's husband, David Ruff--who is an artist, said that the group was asked if it would like to make some arrangement to speak to individual classes at a later date. The group said yes. The performers were then asked by Asst. Principal Maurice Jackson for some facts about their professions and backgrounds. "That did it," said Ruff, "I

knew then that we were not being fairly met. My wife had given them full resumes of each of us a week ago. When the woman assistant principal said that an assembly had not been scheduled, I asked my wife and she said it most certainly was. I said that the assistant principals were talking about scheduling difficulties and that they couldn't take all the children away from their classes for this. One of the students then said that the boys had been taken out of class three times to see a film on becoming a Star newsboy. I left."

Principal John C. Hoffman told the Gazette that he was not involved in the situation since he had delegated the matter of the assembly to his assistant principals.

Asst. Principal Louvenia A. Coverdale told the Gazette that there was no assembly scheduled. "I had called for the teachers to submit the classes they would like to participate in the assembly. No teacher submitted any. Then on Monday morning, two hours before she says the assembly was supposed to begin, Mrs. Ruff handed me a note listing the entire school for the assembly. It is simply impossible to get all our students in the auditorium at the same time. Then Mr. Ruff came in here and acted quite rudely--calling people names. I'm afraid that his lady has it all one-sided in her mind.

Mrs. Ruff did not mention this inci-

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Hine - cont'd

dent in her statement to the school board, but she did list a series of conflicts of attitude and policy reaching back to her first week of school. She stated that Jackson had told her at that time that she should just bring the students along as far as she could and not expect too much. She also told of seeing six boys lined up in the office and Jackson with a paddle.

Hoffman denies knowledge of the use of corporal punishment at Hine. But at the March 15 meeting, a Hine student stated that he had been struck with a paddle similar to the one which he brought to show the board. When Asst. Superintendent John Koontz attempted to discredit the student's testimony, Superintendent Carl Hansen quickly stopped him and asked the student to come to his office and name the teacher who had struck him.

Another Hine student said that he had been hit by a substitute, and that he and other students feared that when Mrs. Ruff left such punishment would resume.

James Bryant, another Hine student, complained to the board about clothing conformity rules at Hine. His testimony that students were sent home for wearing wind-breakers, tennis shoes, collarless shirts or dungarees was referred to a complaint committee of the board.

After Mrs. Ruff resigned, John Sessions, board member and Capitol East resident, said that he wanted the board to know that he had observed Mrs. Ruff's classes. "What I saw there can only be termed a minor educational miracle." Saying that he was saddened by Mrs. Ruff's departure, Sessions later told the Gazette, "I purposely went to both halves--one of which Mrs. Ruff was teaching--of the same section. Going from the first class to Mrs. Ruff's was like going from the third grade to high school."

Board member Benjamin Alexander, who had also observed Mrs. Ruff's class, asked her to reconsider her resignation. He said he thought her a good teacher, and hoped that the school system could be made better to hold and attract good teachers like her.

Board chairman Euphemia Haynes then drew general laughter by announcing to Mrs. Ruff that the board was not prepared to accept her resignation at that time. "You'll have to go through proper channels," she said.

But Mrs. Ruff considered her resignation final. She has not returned to classes. She told the Gazette that there were instances in which she felt she had been treated unfairly. For example, the head of the English department and one of her assistants gave Mrs. Ruff a top rating on her knowledge and rapport with her students. This occurred within days of a very low rating by the Hine principal. "Also," said Mrs. Ruff, "I never saw the directive from Dr. Hansen that the paper be reinstated. I just continued to let the students put out the paper."

Hansen had ordered the paper reinstated after publicity concerning its suppression.

Mrs. Ruff said that her personal treatment was not the main reason for

leaving: "The students are the ones who are suffering. For instance, the girls who handed out the newspaper after school were called to the office and given conduct sheets to carry and have the teacher in each class sign. But I hope they know their rights now and will stand up for them. I don't think they need me anymore."

"I know it's been said we were practicing reprisals," said Mrs. Coverdale, "but not one of the students involved with the paper has been punished. One was suspended from the cheerleaders for quite serious misconduct--but that was back in January, before any of this happened."

Another point which Mrs. Ruff brought to the board was her attempt to get the library open during a lunch period when the librarian was teaching a reading class. "I suggested that a teacher's aide have charge of the library during that period," said Mrs. Ruff, "and the librarian agreed with that. Mr. Hoffman told me that we couldn't make it too easy for the kids, that they have to learn the importance of books by making it a little difficult to get them, that they have to bleed a little." When it was suggested that Hoffman might have made the comment in jest, Mrs. Ruff replied, "That may be, but he didn't open the library."

Hoffman has denied that he said it. He stated: "That's not the whole story anyway. What she was asking was that students be given unplanned and unregulated access to the library. I think that those students who seriously wanted books that period would think it important enough to come in after school."

"I don't think people are getting the full picture of this thing. I think she took those children out of school and down to that board meeting without their parents' approval and that she coached them on what to say. I think she exploited them."

Sherwood Ross, president of the School Action Council for Capitol East, told the Gazette his board does not plan to bring the Hine issue up for consideration.

"I will say though," said Ross, "that I think her leaving is a tragic loss."

Assembly - cont'd

forty community organizations.

Following a keynote address (the name of the keynoter had not been released by our press time), the conference attendees will break up into workshops concentrating on these areas: education, housing, police relations and legal services, recreation and transportation. The workshops will last two hours. There will then be a half hour coffee and doughnut break followed by a 2 1/2 hour general session at which the workshops will be reviewed and community problems further discussed.

The workshops show considerable potential for interesting comment and controversy. Here's the way they shape up at this time:

--**Education:** Moderator: Francis F. X. Donohue, director of Washington Training Opportunities Center.

Panelists: John Sessions, school

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board member and Capitol East resident; Thomas Boyd, principal of Bowen School; Harrison Owens, community leader; Sherwood Ross, president of the School Action Council for Capitol East; Erbin Crowell, former junior high teacher and associate editor of the Capitol East Gazette; and Toby Hendron, neighborhood worker.

--**Recreation:** Moderator: Thomas G. Smith, cochairman of the Emergency Recreation Council for Capitol East.

Panelists: Edward Thacker, Asst. Superintendent of DC Recreation Dept.; Grover Steele, National Capitol Parks; Dr. Ellen Harvey, chairman of the department of recreation at University of Maryland.

--**Police and Legal Services:** Moderator: J. Harley Murray.

Panelists: Capt. John Kinney, Fifth Precinct; James Hill, Neighborhood Legal Services; and a representative from the Justice Dept. yet unnamed.

--**Housing:** Moderator: Sam Smith, editor, Capitol East Gazette.

Panelists: George Miner, management supervisor, National Capital Housing Authority; Marion Barry, civil rights leader; Joe Brennan, UPO worker in housing; and Jesse Locke, public housing resident.



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Vice President Hubert Humphrey poses with the family of the late Lt. Commander Joseph Henriquez USN, following the posthumous award of the Distinguished Flying Cross. Lt. Commander Henriquez, who lived

in Near SE, was killed last summer in Vietnam. Shown with the Vice President are Mrs. Henriquez and her children (left to right) Stefan, Pilar, and Joseph Mateo.

UPO Wants to Cut 1968 Local Funds

The United Planning Organization wants to cut back the Capitol East anti-poverty programs by more than \$40,000 next year. The UPO-proposed budget for the Friendship House Near SE program for fiscal 1968 is \$22,000 less than the level of the current contract. The reduction planned for the Community Improvement Corporation in Near NE is \$18,900 for personnel plus supporting costs.

Both projects have requested UPO for more, not less, money next year. The neighborhood advisory committees of the projects have gone on record as favoring an expansion in the local anti-poverty program rather than a reduction.

Friendship House has written UPO asking for \$327,608 instead of the \$294,153 proposed by UPO. The Near, NE program has submitted three budgets:

--One based on the UPO suggested limit--which would force four persons off the payroll.

--One providing for spending at the present level without any personnel cutbacks.

--One that would permit the hiring of 34 additional personnel.

There appears to be some hope that the local programs will be able to wrangle sufficient funds from UPO to keep going at present levels, despite UPO's expressed intention of a cut-back. But the outlook is bleak for the sort of expansion envisioned by the CIC in its largest budget.

Washington's poverty program is being affected by the shortage of national funds for the war on poverty. The program here was started early but now many more communities have action projects underway and are scrapping for a share of the federal money.

In his letter to UPO, Friendship House director Robert T. Adams, stated:

"The scope and size of our existing program is in no way adequate to meet the needs of our neighborhood, but realizing the increasing shortage of community action funds, we are submitting a budget including only added incremental costs and other minor expenditures for additional equipment."

SHOP EAST OF THE DOME
YOU'RE CLOSER TO HOME

School Changes in Area Urged

The School Action Council for Capitol East has produced a plan calling for major changes in the structure of Capitol East. It will be presented at a SACCE meeting April 20, 8 p. m., at Christ Child Settlement House, 6th & Mass. NE.

Details of the plan will be revealed at the meeting for community reaction. The plan calls for these changes in the organization of local schools:

--Construction of a center for research and development of teaching methods and curricula and for training of school personnel.

--Clustering the present small schools into large administrative units, and the eventual replacement of small schools with larger ones.

--Provision of intern programs for prospective teachers and training programs for supplementary personnel.

--Development of schools into community centers, with recreational and educational activities for children and their parents.

--Community participation in school planning and policy through area-wide citizen councils with specific powers.

Support for the plan will be sought from individuals, organizations and Capitol East school personnel before it is presented in May to the Board of Education.

1985 Plan--cont'd

boating and golf. The park might also be the site of a new stadium to accommodate high school and industrial league sports competition.

"To achieve the full potential envisioned for the Anacostia Park area, some major reworking of land forms will be required. For example, the extent and location of Kingman Lake might be changed. In addition, if a freeway is introduced into this park area, it must be designed in a manner sensitive to the area's potential as the primary center for outdoor recreation in the city."

--There would be increased housing inspection and code enforcement in Near Northeast to prevent blight.

--There would be a new federal center at the Navy Yard and Naval Weapons Plant, employing some 30,000 persons.

--There would be two subway lines serving Near SE but none for Near NE. One of the SE lines (the Penna. Ave--DC Stadium line) would be built by 1972. The second route would run through the Naval Weapons Plant before proceeding across the river to Anacostia.

--A large visitor's center would be constructed at Union Station.

--The NE and SE public libraries would be replaced.

--There would be an upgrading of existing shopping centers, including H St. NE, 8th SE and Penna. Ave. SE.

--The population would remain essentially what it is today.

--Capitol Hill would remain largely untouched. No elevator apartments would be allowed there. The area would be "protected against the intrusion of incompatible development which would destroy its rich historic character."

(Some of the detailed proposals of the 1985 plan concerning Capitol East can be found on page 4.)

The planning commission's report describes Capitol East as an area with "many and varied" problems. "They include the poor condition of a sub-standard housing stock; an excessive amount of land devoted to streets; incompatible mixes of housing and industry; inadequacies in schools, play-space and parks; heavy through traffic movements; traffic congestion in shopping areas; and loose, strung-out arrangements of shopping facilities."

The planning commission is scheduling a series of meetings in various sections of the city to discuss the 1985 plan. Sometime after completion of these sessions the commission will adopt a formal comprehensive plan.

While the plan is subject to considerable alteration due to political and financial factors, it serves as a general indication of the course planned for Capitol East from now until 1985.

Restoration Society House Tour May 14

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society has announced that its house tour this year will be held on May 14.

Ten homes and the rectory of St. James Church, 222 8th NE, will be on the tour. There will be a reception at St. James during the tour.

Those desiring to help or wishing additional information may call Diane Hoxie at 547-8111.

Capitol East: A Course to 1985

BELOW IS A PORTION OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION'S PROPOSED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR WASHINGTON--THE SECTION THAT DEALS WITH CAPITOL EAST:

BACKGROUND

Originally conceived as a fashionable residential area at the front door to the Capitol, CAPITOL EAST still possesses many positive qualities for in-town living. The area has its share of problems, but these are more than outweighed by significant potentials for change and improvement.

Problems within CAPITOL EAST are many and varied. They include the poor condition of a substantial amount of the housing stock; an excessive amount of land devoted to streets; incompatible mixes of housing and industry; inadequacies in schools, playspace, and parks; heavy through traffic movements; traffic congestion in shopping areas; and loose, strung-out arrangements of shopping facilities.

Many of the changes anticipated for the area will create further problems, although they will also present opportunities for improvement. The completion of the Inner Loop will relieve local streets of much of the through traffic movement, but its alignment will tend to isolate certain residential sections. The proposed rapid transit lines will make most of the area even more convenient to the CENTRAL EMPLOYMENT AREA, and to all sections of the metropolitan area. However, the introduction of rapid transit will create pressures for intensive use of land within the area, and will thus threaten to alter the pleasant, intimate scale of the moderate-density housing near Capitol Hill. The restoration movement is a potent force in the area, stimulating both improvements and a positive sense of community. However, this movement leads to the displacement of some low-income families, thus adding to housing supply problems within the city.

1. The South Capitol Street area and a portion of the Naval Weapons Plant area should be established as the setting for the next major grouping of new Federal buildings to be developed within the city.

Concentration of employment in this area will relieve some of the competition for strategic sites in the CENTRAL EMPLOYMENT AREA and monumental areas. It would also replace a blighted industrial area—for many years underdeveloped—and create a dramatic urban link between Capitol Hill and the Anacostia River.

2. The rest of CAPITOL EAST/SOUTHWEST should be predominantly residential. The expansion of non-residential uses into viable housing areas (for example, the eastward expansion of the Capitol complex) should be strictly limited.

By 1985, the total population of the area should be approximately the same as today (about 145,000). Population increases through the selective intensification of residential development and through the conversion of some industrial or underused land to residential use would be offset almost entirely by the allocation of additional land for Government buildings, school sites, and other local facilities.

3. The fine-grained scale of physical relationships (for example, the scale established by rowhouses and existing street widths) should be preserved, particularly for the area near the Capitol.

SPECIFIC PLAN POLICIES

Activity Centers

1. Employment concentrations within CAPITOL EAST/SOUTHWEST should be limited to the periphery of the area, thereby minimizing their intrusion into sound residential areas.

Large concentrations of employment are proposed for South Capitol Street, the Naval Weapons Plant, and the Navy Yard. Approximately 18,000 employees should be accommodated along South Capitol Street. Space should be developed for approximately 20,000 employees at the old Naval Weapons Plant (west of 7th Street) and for 10,000 employees in the historic Washington Navy Yard. All industrial and heavy commercial uses should be eliminated from this area.

Other areas of significant employment concentration are proposed for the area east of Union Station to 4th Street; and north of K Street NE to Florida Avenue; and for the Ivy City area northeast of Gallaudet College. Light industrial use (mostly warehousing) is proposed as the dominant function for these sections. The introduction of freeway elements in these areas should respect their potential as industrial areas.

All industrial and heavy commercial uses should be eliminated from the predominantly residential sections of CAPITOL EAST/SOUTHWEST.

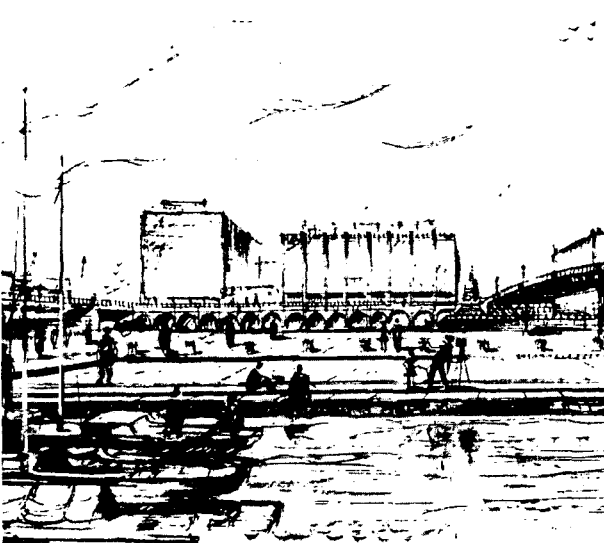
2. Existing local shopping concentrations should be consolidated and upgraded and supplemented through the development of a selected number of new shopping centers.

The shopping areas along H Street NE, 8th Street SE, and Pennsylvania Avenue SE, should be upgraded by providing adequate offstreet parking and loading facilities and by removing structures in poor condition. Pedestrian access and convenience should be enhanced by removing the arterial traffic currently directed to both H Street and 8th Street. The physical integration of new housing and shopping facilities along each of these linear shopping areas should be encouraged.

New shopping areas should be developed in conjunction with the residential development proposed for the Buzzard Point area, as well as in the currently underserved section in the southeast portion of the area (for example, at Barney Circle). The expansion of the auto-oriented commercial facilities along the south side of Benning Road from 15th to 21st Street is also proposed. Development in depth (not just street frontage) is particularly important here to provide the large amounts of land needed by such activities.

3. Special provision should be made for the future disposition of several individual uses in the area.

The District of Columbia Jail and related facilities at 19th and Independence Avenue SE are poorly located and have inadequate space for detention and rehabilitation programs. They should be relocated to a site close to Judiciary Square.



PROPOSED WATERFRONT AT NAVY YARD

The area of the Marine Barracks at 8th and Eye Streets SE should be expanded to the south, ultimately linking (under the freeway structure) with the Navy Yard.

4. To relieve present school overcrowding, to replace obsolete facilities, and to accommodate about a 10-percent increase in total enrollment, the school modernization program should be accelerated.

Of the 33 existing elementary schools, only 17 will be retained. Eight of these should be expanded. To replace obsolete facilities, six new schools (of which one is under construction) should be built.

At the junior high school level, Randall and Stuart should be eliminated over the 20-year period, while two new facilities should be added. Jefferson, Hine, Eliot, and Browne are scheduled to remain.

At the senior high level, Eastern and Spingarn should be retained, and the two vocational schools in the area (Phelps and Chamberlain) eliminated.

Because of limits on land availability, the "restricted site" approach should be considered within CAPITOL EAST. Special design innovations, such as multilevel solutions for playspace as well as classroom space, should be explored, without sacrificing minimum space standards.

Open Space

1. The waterfront park should be extended so that it is continuous from Fort McNair to the Arboretum. It should be developed so as to make the Anacostia River and its shore (altogether with a completed SOUTHWEST waterfront) one of the city's prime centers of outdoor recreation.

2. All formal parks within the area should be restored through the application of the highest standards for park design and maintenance. Attention should be given to preserving the scale of buildings framing the historic parks and squares. The most should be made of the special open-space potentials inherent in the many diagonal avenues found within the area.

3. The total land area in parks and playgrounds serving the local open space needs of the people living

in CAPITOL EAST/SOUTHWEST should be doubled within the next two decades, from an existing 130 acres to about 260 acres.

An increase of this magnitude will be required to approach the standard of about 2 acres per thousand population set for this system. As proposed, about 60 percent of the recommended increase would be achieved through the expansion of sites associated with retained schools or through the creation of new sites associated with schools to be constructed.

4. Besides being considerably more extensive, the system of parks and playgrounds serving CAPITOL EAST/SOUTHWEST should be more diverse in character, with more of the larger multipurpose facilities than at present.

One new major community recreation center is planned (for Buzzard Point) in addition to the two existing centers at Spingarn and Eastern. Each of the latter should be redesigned and expanded. Averaging between 15 and 20 acres in size, these centers will offer a wide range of active recreation facilities.

Four new large neighborhood recreation centers, of about 10 acres each, should be developed to augment the existing facilities in this size class at Randall Junior High School, Garfield Park, and Lincoln Park. These facilities should be further developed to accommodate a wider range of recreation use. A total of 75 acres is allocated for large neighborhood recreation centers.

About 35 smaller scattered neighborhood recreation centers averaging between 3 and 5 acres in size should be developed, most of them as school-associated playspace.

Transportation

The transportation system in CAPITOL EAST should be designed to protect the area as much as possible from the disruption which comes with heavy volumes of traffic. The construction of the East Leg of the freeway system and the proposed subway lines will contribute significantly to minimizing heavy through movement of automobiles in this area.

1. Two rapid transit lines are proposed through CAPITOL EAST/SOUTHWEST, each to be developed as subways.

The line programmed for the first stage system should follow Pennsylvania Avenue SE most of its way through CAPITOL EAST, and would be aligned to serve D.C. Stadium just before the river crossing to serve the northeast section of ANACOSTIA. Stations along the Avenue would be at 8th Street and at Potomac Avenue. Eventually this line should be extended eastward into the Annapolis corridor.

The second line within CAPITOL EAST, which would extend to serve central ANACOSTIA and the southeastern corridor of the metropolitan area, should be aligned to serve the proposed employment concentration centered on South Capitol Street and in the Naval Weapons Plant. Two stops within CAPITOL EAST are proposed on this line, one in the vicinity of M and South Capitol Streets and the other in the Naval Weapons Plant site. The alignment of this second line constitutes a change from preliminary proposed alignments for NCTA's full system. It is recommended, however, that transit service be provided for the employment concentration proposed for the South Capitol Street area.

2. Freeways in this area should skirt the residential sections both to the east and north.

The East Leg of the Inner Loop should be aligned along the west bank of the Anacostia River, respecting the outdoor recreation potential of the riverbank area. Along Mt. Olivet Road, the East Leg should be in a tunnel, thereby minimizing disruption to the Trinidad area and the Arboretum.

A special effort should be made to bridge the South Leg of the Inner Loop Freeway, already in place, by the construction of shops or other community facilities, where possible, under the elevated portions.

Special consideration should be given to the following as an alternative alignment for the connection between the North Leg of the Inner Loop (under K Street) and the North Central Freeway: continue it east under the tracks, then turn it northeast to a connection with the North Central Freeway and East Leg, after passing (a) to the east of the industrial area proposed adjacent to Union Station, and (b) to the west of Gallaudet College. This alignment would minimize residential dislocation, whereas another alternative alignment would seriously affect Eckington and a section of the Shaw renewal area.

3. The ramp systems of all freeways should be planned and designed in conjunction with the major arterial streets system designated for the area.

4. The configuration of the arterial system should be such as to reduce the traffic burden imposed on designated "special streets." Some of the latter should

also serve as arterials, although their use by substantial traffic volumes should be permitted only when this is possible without sacrificing their distinctive character.

Major north-south arterials would include 2d, 7th, 11th, 17th, Bladensburg Road, and South Capitol Street. Major east-west arterials would include M Street, Pennsylvania, Independence, Constitution, Maryland, and Florida Avenues and Benning Road.

5. All new residential, office, and commercial development should have adequate offstreet parking facilities.

With the proposed increases in the intensity of use in selected sections of CAPITOL EAST/SOUTHWEST, the parking problem will be aggravated. Ideally, public streets should not be used as vehicle storage areas. Their primary function is to carry traffic. However, because of the cost of providing off-street parking in existing built-up residential areas, a certain amount of street parking must be provided for the area's residents under specially-controlled circumstances. On the other hand, parking for new uses, such as employment concentrations and high-density residential, should be entirely off-street, and in structures. The special management of parking facilities will be needed to accommodate commuter parking related to the proposed subway station at District of Columbia Stadium.

BASIC PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

In CAPITOL EAST/SOUTHWEST, a wide range of public actions will be necessary. To meet plan objectives set for the 20-year period, public programs will vary from complete redevelopment in some sections to strict code enforcement and protection measures in most sections.

1. An investment of major proportions in new and improved community facilities throughout most of the area will be needed to meet even minimum standards.

The most significant investment in public works should be allocated to the school system. For the most part, a process of replacement and consolidation is appropriate, because of the large number of small, antiquated schools in this section. Although a decrease in number of schools has been programmed, an increase in overall pupil capacity will be achieved because the new schools will be larger than those replaced.

Because of the deprived nature of this section of the city in terms of the space available locally for outdoor recreation, a major investment should be made in new playgrounds and local park areas. While the regional park system (consisting, for CAPITOL EAST, mainly of the Anacostia waterfront park areas) will require investment in the development of land for the most part already in public ownership, the now inadequate local recreation system will have to be expanded in most cases by acquiring private land.

2. Assisted renewal will be necessary to carry out many of the neighborhood improvement programs proposed for CAPITOL EAST/SOUTHWEST.

Clearance and redevelopment will be needed in the South Capitol Street/Buzzard Point area if it is to realize its potential as a site for a new major Federal office complex and a large net increment in housing.

Clearance will be necessary to create the new industrial area proposed for development east of Union Station.

An emphasis on assisted rehabilitation with selected clearance is proposed for most of the area northeast and southeast of the Capitol Hill restoration area. Assisted rehabilitation will also be used to provide adequate and well-designed local facilities in the H Street NE and 8th Street SE shopping areas.

3. More indirect methods of public involvement, such as zoning and code enforcement, are proposed for those areas which are currently sound and are being maintained or improved.

The restoration efforts in the area adjacent to Capitol Hill should be sufficient to achieve most plan objectives for this section. However, improvements for the school and recreation systems are required. In addition, strict code enforcement and zoning measures will be necessary to protect this area from the intrusion of incompatible uses.

Conservation and strict code enforcement, as well as the provision of needed community facilities, are programmed for the eastern section of the planning area (generally east of 15th Street and south of D Street NE).

Selected rezoning is proposed to encourage the industrial development recommended for the New York Avenue corridor, and to guide the selected buildup of residential development recommended for Maryland and Pennsylvania Avenues east of 11th Street.

SPECIFIC PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Stage One: 1967-72

For CAPITOL EAST/SOUTHWEST, the principal actions programmed for this period include construction of the first rapid transit line, a substantial in-

vestment in public works, and the initial phase of the rebuilding program proposed for the South Capitol Street/Buzzard Point Area.

1. Public action through the urban renewal process should be initiated in the South Capitol Street/Buzzard Point area to provide sites for Federal office space for some 18,000 employees, and to take advantage of the opportunity for creating a new waterfront residential community of over 10,000 people. Over one-half of the housing units should be publicly subsidized, including low-rent public housing and housing for moderate-income families.

2. The first rapid transit line through CAPITOL EAST should be constructed, and the second line to serve the employment concentration on South Capitol Street and in the Weapons Plant area should be programmed for early construction in the second stage.

3. The scattered-site public housing program should be extended throughout CAPITOL EAST with the rehabilitation and leasing program being the major effort.

4. Housing inspection and strict code enforcement should be applied to prevent the further spread of blight in the section between Florida Avenue and Constitution Avenue NE.

5. Extensive investments in new public works should be made during this period, especially because of the deprived nature of both the school and local recreation systems at present. The potential which first-stage investments in public works could have as noncash credit toward renewal project financing may be qualified by the fact that most such assisted renewal action for this section of the city is proposed for later stages of the 20-year period, South Capitol/Buzzard Point being the principal exception.

Nonetheless, the 6-year program should include the following:

- Six new elementary schools and the expansion of eight others;
- Two new junior high schools;
- The development of some 90 acres for new local parks and playgrounds, and the initial development and improvement of the regional park system along the Anacostia waterfront;
- The replacement of the Southeast and Northeast branch libraries;
- The replacement of police precinct stations No. 5 and No. 9;
- The development of a new comprehensive public health center in conjunction with District of Columbia General Hospital; and
- Completion of the East Leg of the Inner Loop Freeway.

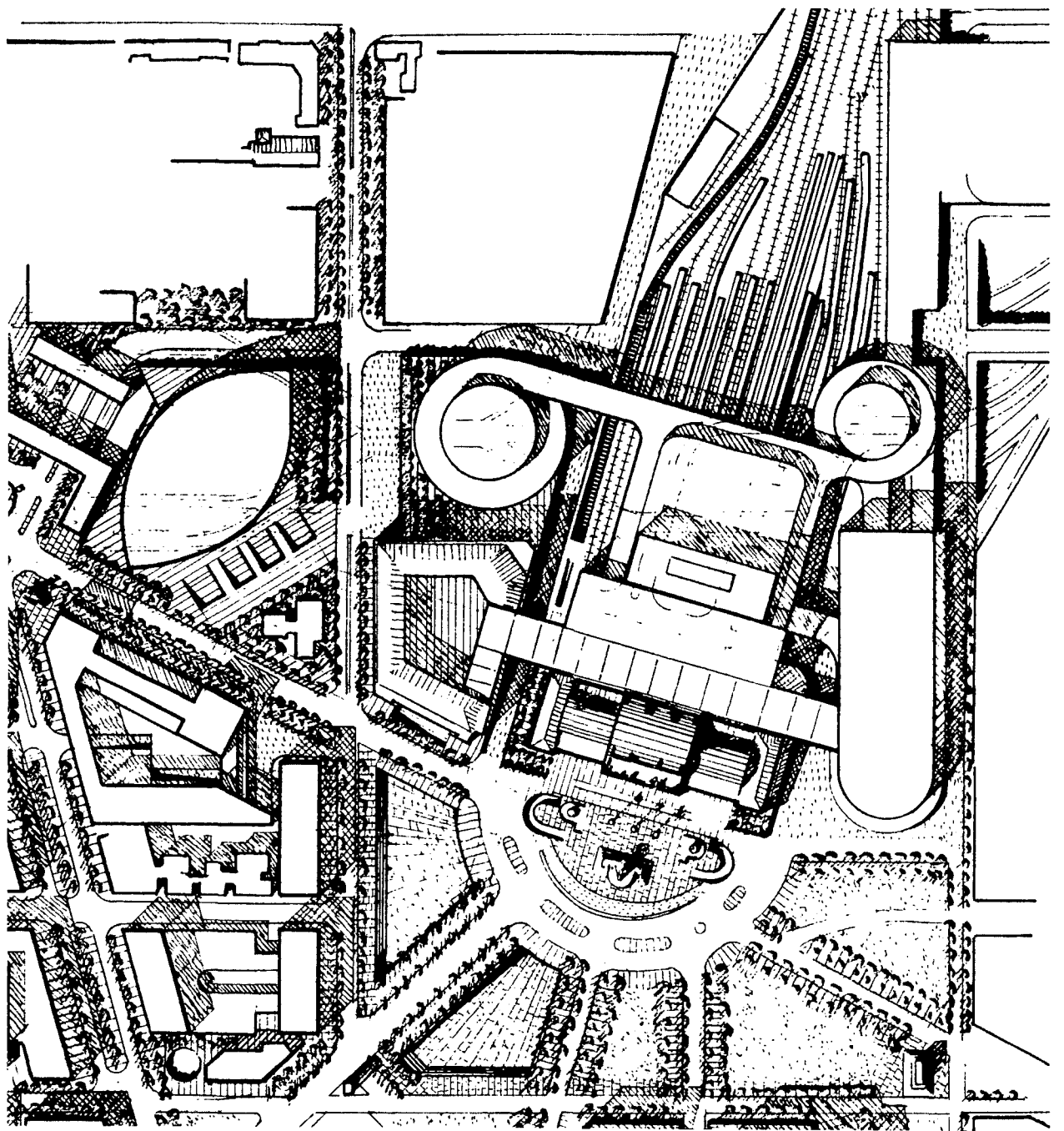
Stage Two: 1973-85

Assisted public renewal action will mark the major effort during this stage of the program, with a continued major investment in public works begun in the earlier years.

The second rapid transit line serving the major employment concentration should be completed early in the period in conjunction with the further development of the South Capitol Street area, which will continue well into this stage.

Assisted renewal efforts should be initiated in the proposed industrial area east of Union Station. Major rehabilitation and selected clearance and redevelopment will be the characteristic action for the Maryland Avenue, the H Street/Florida Avenue, and the 8th Street/Kentucky Avenue areas. Major improvements to the commercial facilities in each of these areas will call for significant private as well as public investment.

SKETCH PLAN OF PROPOSED TRANSPORTATION TERMINAL AND VISITOR CENTER AT UNION STATION







The 1985 plan states: "A terminal-visitor center complex should be compactly developed as an expansion of Union Station. The main station building would be retained, both as an architectural landmark and in anticipation of fuller use as better East Coast rail service is introduced. The role of the station would be expanded by the construction of an interstate bus terminal on the air rights above the railroad tracks, and by the new rapid transit

station, which should be centrally located to serve both bus and rail passengers. Eventually a heliport might be established in this area. Escalators, moving sidewalks, and all-weather pedestrian concourses would connect the various modes of transportation with the visitor center, the convention hall, and other facilities.

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Letters

The Gazette will be glad to print letters from its readers. Short and interesting letters stand the best chance of being published. Mail to the Gazette 413 6th St. NE, Washington, 20002.

THE RUFF CASE

As one of the many Capitol Hill mothers concerned with DC public schools, I am closely following the incident at Hine Junior High School and the furor over Mrs. Ruff's teaching methods.

To suggest that a teacher must have all her teaching materials approved by a principal is shocking. In every school I know of, a teacher is expected to

follow generally an approved curriculum and fulfill certain prerequisites for any particular grade. Never have I heard that a teacher could not play a record, or assign a book without principal approval. I am further amazed that school officials couldn't understand a documentary record on the freedom movement in Georgia.

The presentation of Negro literature and history to a class (mainly composed of Negro students) which seems to have upset the Hine Junior High School assistant principal, Mr. Jackson, should and I think will eventually be incorporated into all school systems, and why shouldn't students learn something of the rich history and many fine achievements (other than those of Book T. Washington and George Washington Carver) of Negro Americans as

well as other ethnic groups. This whole issue points out the major flaw of DC schools--mediocrity and lack of imagination. Our schools need fewer Carl Hansens, John Hoffmans and Maurice Jacksons and many, many more creative individuals like Mrs. Ruff. She certainly has my support.

Mrs. Kenneth Schlossberg
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Stanton Barber Shop	601 Mass. NE	LI 3-9696
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Margaret's House of Beauty	526 H NE	LI 3-1110 547-9778
	<u>BOOK SHOPS</u>	
Armstrong's Book Shop	325 H NE	399-8823
	<u>CARRYOUTS</u>	
Penn Del	313 Pa. SE	544-2869
	<u>DRUG STORES</u>	
East Capitol Pharmacy	8th & E. Capitol	LI 3-1500
Henderson's	1100 8th SE	LI 3-3900
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SE Furniture Exchange	208 7th SE	LI 6-0585
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The Swampoodle Papers

In its recent article on the 600 block of Penna. Ave. SE, the Capitol Hill Spectator took a kernel of truth and turned it into a field of unmitigated corn. The Spectator pictured the block as fear-ridden, shabby and a haven for hippies. It would take too long to outline all the inaccuracies in the piece, but a couple of sentences suggest the general tone. Speaking of the "fear" that "you can almost touch and smell," the Spectator says:

"You first notice it when the man behind the counter in the hardware store ever so imperceptively shrinks back from you, a stranger, when you walk in. You notice it when the jolly chap in the small liquor store cases your frame for the telltale bulge of a hidden weapon before he has identified you as a friend or 'one of them.'"

I've spent a good deal of time on the 600 block of Penna. SE, and I must confess that I've never noticed these things, even though--to the best of my knowledge--I outweigh any Spectator reporter by fifty pounds, usually have bulging pockets, and generally present a threatening visage. There undoubtedly is crime on the 600 block--too much of it--just as there is throughout Capitol East, but the Spectator's picture of the block is a little hard to swallow.

The Spectator says:

"On any weekday morning you will find no more than a handful of people on the street. Many of these are the perpetual losers of the area, the wines... Here and there you may find a housewife visiting one of the small stores, but, in fact, there is not much to attract shoppers--a liquor store, a bicycle shop, a five and dime, a hamburger place, a dark theater with a shabby facade."

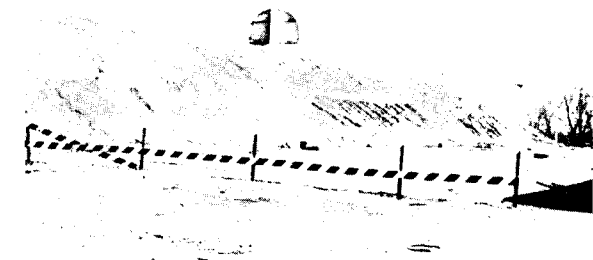
In truth, there is considerable to attract shoppers on the block and they come. There is the Georgetown Coffee Shop with its fine selection of coffees; a Chinese restaurant with modestly priced but good food; Spack's Chicken on the Hill, where one can get chicken, pizza, a drink, and (if you're up to it) a game of chess with the owner; the Southeast Pet Shop and Mr. Henry's (establishments interesting enough to have been featured in the daily press); and a High's Dairy store, *sine qua non* of Washington ice cream cone buffs. There is also an art supply store, a dress shop, florists, a couple of neighborhood taverns, a Kresge's, a People's, a Little Tavern (absolute necessity for those of us who occasionally make the long night's journey into day); a TV repair shop which does good reliable work, an inexpensive movie theater, two pleasant liquor stores, and a bicycle shop that I've heard praised highly several times.

These stores may not fit the Spectator's dream for Capitol Hill, but they certainly satisfy many local residents. They are interesting and attractive places to do business. We're glad to have them.

Part of the Spectator's inability to understand the 600 block may be explained by the address it lists on its masthead: 3250 K St. NW. Perhaps if the paper would move its offices a little closer to the community, it would get a better idea of what is going on here.

Behind the large pile of dirt pictured below lies a story. Two years ago the ground it now covers (near 15th & L SE) and the adjacent basketball court were part of a large, ugly lot filled with abandoned cars, trash, and overgrown weeds. In January 1965, the land was acquired by the Highway

Dept. That same year, Charles Horsky, White House advisor on District affairs, became interested in the lot and was instrumental in getting it cleaned up so it could be used for



baseball, basketball and other recreation. The basketball backboards shown in the photo were also erected.

One year later, in the spring of 1966, trucks began dumping large quantities of dirt on the lot and the neighborhood children lost their play-space. About this time one of the backboards was knocked down.

A local resident pointed out what had happened to John Stewart, a member of Vice President Humphrey's staff. Humphrey, at the time, was involved in his Buy-a-Lite campaign for District playgrounds. Shortly thereafter, the backboard was replaced and the court resurfaced. But the dirt remained.

The mound, it turns out, was brought there by the DC Highway Dept. to be used as fill in building the SE Expressway, apparently without consultation with any of the agencies interested in the recreational use to which the land was being put. The dirt was residue from construction of the 9th St. Expressway.

The Highway Dept. denies knocking over the backboard. "We think the kids did it," said Bernie O'Donnell of the department's construction and maintenance division. But O'Donnell did admit that dirt from the mound spilt over onto the basketball court and had to be later cleared off.

In any case, what once was a playground in an area of town that badly needs such facilities has been an ugly and useless pile of dirt for a year now.

Perhaps the moral of this tale is that even the White House and the Vice President won't do you much good if the Highway Dept. needs a place to dump its dirt. Tough luck, kids. --(S.S.)

School Costs Outlined

Here's a list of Capitol East school projects proposed in the 1968 District budget:

--Payne Elementary School addition, 15th & C SE. Ten regular classrooms, one kindergarten, one special academic classroom and one pre-kindergarten suite. Net increased capacity 386. \$951,000.

--New elementary school, 17th & Independence SE. Twenty-eight regular classrooms, two kindergartens, two special academic rooms, two social adjustment rooms, and three pre-kindergarten suites. Capacity 960. Site: \$910,000.

--Blow-Pierce Elementary Schools replacement, 20th & Gales Sts. NE. Thirty regular classrooms, two kindergartens, and two special academic rooms. Capacity 756, net increase 412. Equipment: \$93,000.

--New elementary school, 19th & L NE. Twenty-five regular classrooms, two kindergartens, three special academic rooms, one social adjustment room, and four pre-kindergarten suites. Capacity 1,069. Air-conditioned. Site: \$1,500,000.

--Blair-Ludlow-Taylor Elementary Schools replacement, 6th & G NE. Thirty regular classrooms, two kindergartens, two special academic classrooms. Capacity 768. Net increase 248. Equipment: \$98,000.

--Peabody-Madison-Hayes Elementary Schools replacement, 9th & C NE. Twenty-six regular classrooms, two kindergartens, two special academic classrooms, and two pre-kindergarten suites. Capacity 846, net increase 146. Site: \$900,000.

--Lovejoy-Edmonds Elementary Schools replacement, 12th & D NE. Thirty regular classrooms, two kindergartens, two special academic classrooms, and three pre-kindergarten suites. Capacity 1,008, net increase 252. Site: \$400,000.

--New elementary school, 12th & C NE. Twenty-six regular classrooms, one kindergarten, one special academic room, one social adjustment room, two pre-kindergarten suites. Capacity 773. Site: \$912,000.

--Brent Elementary School replacement, 3rd & D SE. Fourteen regular classrooms, one kindergarten, one basic classroom, and multi-service center. Capacity 498, net increase 258. Equipment: \$65,000.

--Lenox Elementary School addition, 5th between G and Virginia Ave. SE. Eight regular classrooms, one kindergarten, two special academic rooms, and four pre-kindergarten suites. Net increased capacity 400. Site, plans and specifications. \$389,000.

--Hine Junior High addition, 7th & C SE. Addition of nineteen regular classrooms and nine special rooms and shops. Capacity 570. Site, plans and specifications. \$1,479,000.

--Spingarn-Phelps Stadium, 24th & Benning NE. Stadium to seat 5,000 with track and field house. Construction and equipment: \$504,000.

East of The Dome

A medical self-help training program is underway in Near NE, sponsored by the Near NE poverty program. Weekly sessions on first-aid and medical care are being held at the NE Public Library, 7th & Md. NE. The sessions are scheduled to run through April 24th.

Engineer Commissioner Robert E. Mathe, who was local head of urban renewal from 1955 to 1958, has had some second thoughts about the District's public housing policy at that time. He told a recent meeting that it might have been a mistake to concentrate public housing in NE and SE. Said Mathe "On reappraisal, maybe it wasn't the best action we took."

Last month found a long list of local organizations marching up to Capitol Hill to testify before the House District appropriations subcommittee. Most of the groups favored the Near SE pool al-

though two opposed it. Commended for his testimony by subcommittee members was 16-year-old Forrest Bethea, who urged more youth programs in the area.

On April 2, the St. Mark's Chancel Dance group will participate in the communion service. To the beat of popular folk-type music composed by divinity students in New York, the dancers will interpret the parts of the service which are often set to music such as the kyrie eleison and the Nicene Creed. As is now usual at St. Mark's, 301 A SE, this 11 a.m. service will be set in the round with the congregation surrounding the altar and the dancers.

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The Circle-on-the-Hill, an organization of 150 Capitol East women connected with Friendship House, has urged Mrs. Lyndon Johnson to help convert three District-owned buildings in this area to recreational use. In a letter to Mrs. Johnson commenting on the Halprin Plan for improving Capitol East, Circle president Deborah Frum drew attention to the Carberry School, 5th & D NE (shown in the photo at right) which, she said, "now stands idle in the midst of a densely populated area with many children and teenagers who have few recreational facilities. The building is used for storage by the Dept. of Education. The sizeable playground area on both sides of the school is used for parking while teenagers attempt to play basketball on the side of an adjacent corner store. This building of several floors plus basement could be used for year-round recreation. . ."

Mrs. Frum also suggested use of the old abandoned French School, 7th & G SE, as a "perfect site" for a cultural center for all ages; and the use of the Dent School, 2nd & SC SE, as a clubhouse.



CARBERRY SCHOOL


►The Metropolitan Police Dept. has increased the pay for newly appointed police cadets. The annual salary is now \$4590, which is \$665 more than previously. Persons interested in the cadet corps should apply at the Civil Service Building, 19th & E NW, for examination at 8:30 am on the second or fourth Saturday, or at 7 pm on the first Thursday of any month.

►Merle Baumgart has been elected chairman of the board of directors of Community Laundries, 1327 Penna. SE. At a meeting held in the lounge of the cooperative laundry venture, shareholders also elected Clifford Drake, Dorothy Dennis, Evelyn Engramham, Mary Hewitt, Linda Work and Martha Wright to the board.

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East of the Dome

►The Southeast Civic Association concentrated last month on a clean-up, paint-up, fix-up campaign. The organization scheduled two special trash pick-ups and distributed information concerning sanitation service.

►The Northeast Progressive People's Association was recently formed. It's members include residents of 6th & 7th St. NE; the 600 block of E & F NE; and the 500 block of Morris Place NE. The group hopes to improve the looks of its neighborhood and to provide new recreation for both children and adults. The president of the association is John Layton and vice president is Jerome Barnett.

►Construction is scheduled to start later this year on a 4-story headquarters for the Republican National Committee. The building will be erected across the street from the Cannon House Office Building.

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►Dr. Matthew Mitchell, 700 13th St. NE, and Michael Padnos, 208 Fifth St. SE, are among those nominated for positions on the board of directors of the National Capitol Area Civil Liberties Union. The election will be held in May. Dr. Mitchell is an assistant professor of orthodontics at Howard University. Padnos is a staff member of the Legal Services Program of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

►The Israel Baptist Church, 632 11th St. NE, is planning to install new heating, air conditioning equipment and ceilings; and is going to remodel its kitchen, boiler room and lavatory.

Other building projects in Capitol East:

A new Safeway, planned for the 300 block of 8th St. NE, to cost \$150,000.

Seven new two-story dwellings in the 300 block of 8th SE.

Three three-story dwellings in the 700 block of 9th SE.

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Capitol East Calendar

April

2 The Chancel Dance Group of St. Mark's Church will perform at the 11 a.m. service, 301 A SE.

6 "Our Religious Heritage." Three movies: "Jerusalem, the Holy City," "Life of Christ in Art," and "New Born Again." Latter is the story of salvation told through Negro spirituals, dance and poetry. SE Public Library, 7th & D SE, 2 p.m. Free.

6 Planning session for the Assembly for a Better Community. Friendship House, 619 D SE, 8 p.m.

8 Market Day, Friendship House, 619 D SE, all day. Sale with special events for children. Story on page 1.

20 Meeting of School Action Council for Capitol East to hear details of SACCE's report on Capitol East schools. Christ Child House, 6th & Mass. NE, 8 p.m. Story on page 6.

20 "Three Views of England." Three films: "Journey into Spring," "The Poet's Eye--a Tribute to Shakespeare," and "Gardens of England." SE Public Library, 7th & D SE, 2 p.m.

29 Assembly for a Better Community. Hine Jr. High, 8th & Penna. SE, 9 a.m. Story on page 1.

May

May 14 in the date for the Restoration Society's House Tour. The SE Library film series continues with three films on the arts on May 4 and two films on Expo '67 and Montreal on May 18.

Deadline for Calendar: 23rd of month.

How To Get News Into The Gazette

We are interested in everything that is taking place in Capitol East. To make sure your news item gets in the paper, send it to us in writing before the 23rd of the month. Include full details. Our address is 413 6th St. NE.

Or call us at 546-9662.

We can use photographs providing they are clear and well identified. Photos can not be returned.

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